

(b), (c) and (d) The minute is confidential and cannot be laid on the table.

*Publication of Papers relating to Punishment of Officers concerned in the Students' Strike.*

404. MR. M. N. PILLAI (Trivandrum): (a) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of their proceedings awarding punishments and censures to the Government servants concerned in the students' strike?

(b) Why were the proceedings not published?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (Secretary to Government):

(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The orders are confidential.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (Trivandrum): May I know why the Government keep the orders punishing guilty officers in connection with the students' strike confidential?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): That is the opinion of the Government.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (Trivandrum): Is that the practice in all the departments of the Government to keep the names of the officers who are guilty as a secret?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): In this particular instance Government think that they should be kept confidential.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (Trivandrum): What is that due to?

PRESIDENT: Punishment orders are ordinarily confidential.

*Report on the Students' Strike incident of the 21st September, 1921.*

405. MR. M. N. PILLAI (Trivandrum): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they did not get any report on the occurrence of the 21st September, 1921, written on that day itself?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): No reports written on the same day have been received.

*Allegations against Mr. A. S. Krishna Aiyar, Tahsildar.*

406. MR. M. N. PILLAI (Trivandrum): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the charge against Mr. A. S. Krishna Aiyar, while he was the Tahsildar of Quilon, was that he demanded bribes from the contractor engaged for opening the Paravur bar;

(b) whether the person who made these allegations in writing and two other witnesses gave statements in support thereof in the presence of Mr. A. S. Krishna Aiyar before the Division Peishkar and whether Mr. Krishna Aiyar cross-examined or claimed the right to cross-examine these persons;

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(c) whether the Division Peishkar was able to secure any corroboration of these statements from these records and whether he reported that Mr. Krishna Aiyar should be punished; and

(d) if so, why the Government did not punish him?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government are not prepared to discuss in public charges relating to the conduct of public servants and the orders passed on such charges.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): At the last session Government replied, in answer to my question whether there were any charges against Mr. Krishna Aiyar, that there were no charges against him. Now the answer is that the Government are not prepared, with regard to orders passed on public servants, to give them out in public. May I know why?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): What I mentioned on the last occasion was that there were no definite charges framed against Mr. Krishna Aiyar under the rules relating to enquiries into the conduct of public servants.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): No. Government said that there were no charges against the officer. Then, I asked what was the necessity to note in the service book of that officer.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): As I said, what I meant was that there were no definite charges framed against him under those rules.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But now Government say that they are not prepared to discuss the charges in public.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That means allegations and not regular charges.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether there was any charge against that officer?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There was no definite charge.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was there any indefinite charge?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There were certain allegations against the Tahsildar. I cannot call them regular charges.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But then the answer was that an entry was made in the officer's service book. I want to know what it was that necessitated the Government to make such an entry without any definite charge.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because the head of the department reported that there were certain suspicions against the Tahsildar.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know what was the report?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I regret I cannot disclose its contents.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): What was the substance of that report?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not the substance either.

*Allegations against Mr. V. Padmanabha Aiyar, Tahsildar.*

407. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. V. Padmanabha Aiyar, while he was Tahsildar at Eraniel, registered some lands specially reserved for the communal purposes of the Krishnanvaka community in the name of a private individual?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to furnish the dates of the orders (i) reserving those lands for communal purposes; and (ii) registering the same in the name of a private individual?

(c) Is it a fact that Mr. V. Padmanabha Aiyar, while he was Tahsildar at Kunnatnad, registered in the names of private persons some lands already handed over to, and in the possession of, the Education Department?

(d) Was any enquiry started with regard to the above acts of the Tahsildar, and if so, when?

(e) What is the nature of the enquiry, and at what stage does it stand at present?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The conduct and the work of this Tahsildar are under investigation and hence Government cannot answer this question at the present stage.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether there are any charges against Mr. Padmanabha Aiyar?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer given is definite.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But I wish to know whether any charges were framed against this officer.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The whole thing is under investigation.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether the head of the department reported against this officer?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Reports have come in.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Against Mr. Padmanabha Aiyar?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.